EXHISIT / / 3 / 3 / 3 / 299

Representative Clarena M. Brockie House District 32 Rocky Boy, south Havre, south Chinook Harlem and Fort Belknap Indian Reservation

Proponent & co-sponsor in support

of:

HOUSE BILL NO. 299

Good afternoon Chairman Lavin and members of the committee. I am Representative Brockie from House District 32. Today I bring you House Bill 299, which is sponsored by Representative Wendy Warburton (who could not be here today) and me as a co-sponsor. This is A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PATRICK A. PYETTE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY BETWEEN CHINOOK AND ZURICH ALONG U.S. HIGHWAY 2; ESTABLISHING THE JOSHUA RAVEN CHIEF THOMAS "JOSH" RUTHERFORD MEMORIAL HIGHWAY BETWEEN ZURICH AND HARLEM ALONG U.S. HIGHWAY 2; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

This bill is brought forth as a request from the Blaine County Law Enforcement and the families of Patrick A. Pyette and Joshua Rutherford.

Patrick A. Pyette, working as the Undersheriff for the Blaine County Sheriff's office in Chinook, died in the line of duty Wednesday, December 14, 2011, while directing traffic around the scene of a disabled truck on U.S. Highway 2, between Harlem and Chinook. Patrick was dedicated to his community and the people of northcentral Montana and served the people of Montana with integrity and compassion during his ten years in the Blaine County Sheriff's Office.

Blaine County Deputy Sheriff Joshua Raven Chief Thomas Rutherford a young upcoming man was killed in the line of fire on May 29, 2003. On the late evening of May 29, 2003, Josh Rutherford was at home playing with his young son, Thomas when he received a distress call from the local dispatcher. It was a domestic call and shots had been fired. Josh grabbed his gun and ran. In the ensuing exchange of fire, Josh received a fatal shot and was killed.

Josh's other name was "Who He Who Ga", named after his grandfather from Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Raven Chief. He left behind his wife, Jennifer and their two sons, Michael and Matthew. He also has two other sons from a previous marriage, Thomas, and Teague. His mother is Maxine Clifford and father Mike Mathews. He was a student at Fort Belknap College and was in a program that I supervised. He was also a training office with the Montana Law Enforcement.

There are several witnesses here today who would like to speak on the bill.

Thank you and I reserve the right to close.

Close

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for a good hearing.

Both of these young men were dedicated to their community and in protecting the lives of those that they serve. Both died in the line of duty.

I ask a do pass.